

ANARCHIST NO. 2



BULLETIN

HELLO COMRADES,

We've had lots of dreams about Revolution over the last few years and it seems to us that now more than ever Anarchism is becoming a viable proposition for the coming decades in Australia. From where we stand in Melbourne we can see the growth of the grass roots style organisations like the People for Nuclear Disarmament (and others on a smaller scale) being a sign of hopeful things to come. This bulletin aims to bring together in solidarity the scattered elements of the Anarchist movement in Australia and set up an effective communications network. We hope that by us having taken on the task of producing issue no. 2 that we'll be doing our bit to help make the dreams of all you like minded people a reality.

We first heard of the idea to start an Australian anarchist newsletter about a year ago when a comrade (Mike) from the Freedom Collective in Perth visited Melbourne. Unfortunately, the reaction amongst Melbourne anarchists was quite negative. There were cries of "it would be a waste of time" and "there are too many differences between anarchists; too many old wounds from the FAA split".

It was left up to the Perth comrades with their positive attitude and foresight to get the show on the road. And just to show that there are positive people in Melbourne we are keeping the show on the road by producing no. 2. We are hoping that comrades in other states will follow our example and produce another A Bulletin after this one.

If you want to do No. 3, take it in turns though, here are a few suggestions: Write to the groups and individuals listed below as we did saying you intend to compile the newsletter inviting up-to-date news and articles and giving a deadline date for copy to be sent to your address. Wait a few weeks and presto it'll all start rolling in to your P.O. Box. Alright now (a typewriter will come in handy for this) type up all the submissions, (New Zealand wants to get in on the act too! Good!) apologetically editing excess material which proves too lengthy. As long as you print a representative portion of the material we don't think it will damage good feeling.

Fine, now you may need advice on laying out the newsletter if it's to be printed on an offset press (cash flow permitting) we were going to but at the last minute decided on a gestetnered job for not very funny money reasons.

O.K. THEN that's all there is to it. We hope this newsletter encourages more contact and solidarity between anti-authoritarian anarchists everywhere.

love, anarchy etc.

Maz and patrick,
(TREASON COLLECTIVE)

HERE IS THE BULLETIN's CONTACT LIST - PLEASE ADD ANY MORE GROUPS THAT SPRING UP.

W.A.

Freedom Collective, P.O. Box 203, Freemantle. W.A. 6160.

S.A.

M. Bakunin, P.O. Box 184, Stepney. S.A. 5069. Anarchist-Feminist Posters, 118 Baulah Rd., Norwood. S.A. 5067.

N.S.W.

Jura Bookshop, 417 King Street, Newtown. Sydney. N.S.W. 2042

The Redfern Black Rose Anarchist Bookshop, 36 Botany Road, Redfern. N.S.W. 2015.

Panic Merchants, P.O. Box K153, Haymarket, Sydney. N.S.W.

Everything, C/- Jura Bookshop, 417 King Street, Newtown. Sydney. 2042

Black Ram Books, P.O. Box 271, Kings Cross. N.S.W. 2101.

VIC.

Treason, P.O. Box 37, E. Brunswick. Vic. 3057.

Libertarian Workers for a Self-Managed Society, P.O. Box 20, Parkville. Vic. 3052.

Melbourne Anarchist Centre, 215 Victoria Parade, Collingwood. 3066.

Libertarian Socialists, C/- Latrobe University SRC, Bundoora. Vic. 3083.

Monash Anarchists, C/O Monash Student Union, Monash University, Clayton. 3168.

Bernadette, C/- Latrobe S.R.C., Bundoora. Vic. 3083.

QLD.

Self Management Organisation, P.O. Box 332, Nth. Quay. 4000.

Libertarian Socialist Organisation, P.O. Box 223, Broadway, 4000.

Red and Black Bookshop, P.O. Box 223, Broadway, 4000.

2 or 3 Gathered in his name, P.O. Box 187 West End, Queensland. 4101.

TAS.

B. Graham, 34 Kennedy St., Launceston. Tas. 7250.

N.Z.

Tu kuna te manu kia rere (Blackmail newspaper), P.O. Box 13-165, Christchurch 1. Aotearoa, N.Z.

NEW ZEALAND ANARCHISM 1900 - 1965

Industrial Unionism was the driving force behind militant trade unionism in the early nineteen hundreds. The IWW first established a group in Christchurch in 1908. Such personalities as Tom Barker and J.B. King were active in a group in Auckland in 1912-1913, through the Waihi and General Strikes. They were selling thousands of copies of Industrial Unionist during this period. After the defeat of the 1913 General Strike Tom Barker was deported and ended up back in England. King returned to Sydney. He spoke at a May Day meeting in Wellington in 1932 in defence of Sacco and Vanzetti.

There was a small Anarcho-Communist group in Wellington in 1912. Street fights with police frequently occurred after meetings. A Polish baker called Josephs was involved in this group.

During the 30's there seems to be individuals who were very active. The Webb family in Auckland and another individual in Wellington. All I know of him was that he was well dressed and carried a copy of Bakunin's writings around with him.

Jock Barnes was thinking along syndicalist lines after Savage conveniently forgot to get him a job after the 1935 Labour win. (Jock Barnes later was a leader of the 1951 waterfront strike).

There was a Libertarian Socialist Group in Auckland during the late fifties and the sixties. Of course there were the exiles from Spain however few remained active. One person Werner Droscher died a few years ago. He left Germany with the rise of Hitler and fought in Spain. Werner was active right up until he died but described himself as a "retired" anarchist.

ANARCHISM IN NEW ZEALAND 1982

There are four main areas worth describing 1) Lumpen street culture, 2) Non ideological communal groups, 3) Protest movements, 4) Politics.

1) Street culture groups are characterised by the proliferation of graffiti (ranging from 'Fuck the State' to the 'racist KKK@'), appearances at the Labour Dept and PEP (relief) jobs, punch-ups with the cops, support for pub-bands (e.g. the punk style Desperate Measures -1984 song). Currently in Christchurch a business group offers \$800 reward for a graffiti conviction and a PEP job has been created removing graffiti. In Auckland most recent graffiti is of Black Unity origin. It could be said that the youth movement this reflects knows what it is against - the state, work, police, but only has a limited conception of what it is for, let alone any contact with local anarchist tradition for what it is worth. Interestingly enough the @ in the circle is quite common

as a symbol of resistance on blackboards in the schools.

2) Communal groups arising from the early 70s hippy philosophies. Rural communities still functioning in many places on a combination of small farming, crafts, contracting and depe-growing. In the cities some co-operative ventures exist, eg. Te Whanau Trust in Christchurch that runs two stores, gardens, workshops, community activities.

3) Protest Movements; eg. anti-Springbok tour, anti-Nuclear warship, Bastion Point/Waitangi Day Maori land rights groups. Anti-authoritarian ideas are articulated but overshadowed by leadership and Leninist ideas and separatist trends in many actions. White patriarchal communist control of Wellington anti-tour demonstrations contrasted with the militant autonomous black and women lead actions in Auckland. Black nationalist women are currently at the forefront of the anti-racist movement in Auckland. There are women's bookshops in all four major cities and Erickburners Anarchism and Feminism pamphlet sells well.

4) People who label themselves as anarchist. A small number in Auckland mostly oriented towards musical activity. Lancaster Publishing produces poetry and cassettes. Wayne Innes author of Don't Pay Taxes and 'How to survive in Suburbia' lives up that way. Considering the amount of black and women's activity in NZ's largest metropolitan centre we would expect a flourishing anarchist movement - alas this is not so. Auckland Anarchy from its heyday in the mid 70's has largely evaporated (most individuals ending up in Australia or London). But we are ever hopeful of a revival.

In Wellington a young group with 'punk' connections. Involved with street culture activities, screen printing, anti-Truxton (US nuclear warship) actions. The magazines Fascism and Boredom and Black-out come from there. The individuals however have been subject to much recent police harassment. Political individuals of older ages tend to be heavily influenced by vanguardist and Lemingist tendencies that proliferate in the bad vibes emanating from parliament and the downtown office complexes.

Christchurch, or more affectionately known as smogland. A new print shop has been established - offset A3 size printing. Also premises for lay-out, screenprinting, dark-room and workshop. A library, one issue of Blackmail, posters and two issues of Sth-East News (for local letter boxing) printed. Irregular meetings but a continuity of commitment. The individuals have experience of subversive activities ranging from over a decade to a few months. - this diversity of ages and backgrounds brings in new ideas and energies - all largely within the anarcho-communist ideological spectrum. We are planning on exposing local work, corruption, housing, LPG issues as well as general anti-commentaries and ideas on how to survive. Contact with overseas groups i.

groups is good and a literature importation and distribution service well organised.

While the number of self-proclaimed A's in NZ is small and almost exclusively male and pakeha the potential for future activity is good. Long-standing dissatisfaction with the Govt and business is widespread and the various protest and industrial actions over the past decade have created a tradition of struggle that has many anti-authoritarian aspects.

(The above was written by Richard, the short early history by Frank from Tu kuma te manu kia rere. Later in the year with access to files and some feedback from N.Z. anarchists in N.Z. and overseas they hope to produce a history of N.Z. anarchism 1968 - 1982.)

ADELAIDE

Hi, my name's Michael B. and I'm based in Adelaide, where presently no A groups (except for the Anarcha-feminists) exist any longer. However, I'm still maintaining an anarchist postal contact point and some other anarchist sympathisers do still exist here. I do feel that better contact and communication between the A groups and scattered individuals is necessary and I do admit that in the past I've been a bit slack in this regard myself but it's not as if this has resulted in things going beyond no return.

Part of the reason, I suppose is due to there not being much (if anything) to discuss about activities of an anarchist nature in S.A., of late. Anyway, I reckon that the Australasian anarchist groups need some form of (preferably informal) co-ordination. What we can't afford is anarchist sectarianism, otherwise we reduce ourselves to the level of the Leninists. Let's recognize that the different anarchist groups do at times hold different views and approaches and that some differences of opinion can and does exist within each group itself.

The important thing is for us to hold reasonably similar views, we can't all think alike and I'm sure none of us want us to think all exactly the same. Let's by all means, if we must, work out our theories but let's not make them abstract theories that can only be grasped by someone assumed to be academic or at least semi-intellectual. Otherwise we inevitably cut ourselves off from many others in society and I'm sure no anarchist REALLY wants that to happen.

Let's all maintain consistency with our ideals. By no means am I trying to say that there is any hard and fast set of rules for anarchists. But I do see some form of basic ethics as necessary. Such as it is not consistent with anarchism for someone, especially if they call themselves an anarchist, to rent property and dwellings to others, someone who rapes another person cannot be considered an anarchist, no can someone who makes money thru the exploitation of others be accepted by the anarchist movement in any way.

I'm not trying to lay out a set of anarchist commandments. But if we don't hold some basis for association, what's to stop Lang Hancock (as unlikely as it is) from trying to align himself with and then buying off the anarchist movement? (Remember or heard the story about Bob Gould with the SLL?)

Above all, with the economic crisis and concern about nuclear war lets look for direct action activities that may be open to us on a local level, e.g. housing, environmental/womens issues, workplace organisation etc. The important thing for those of us who do get involved in these things is not to let our energy be absorbed into purely reformist demands or to allow ourselves to be co-opted politically. Something that can be stressed is the possibility, desirability and practicality of working collectively without hierarchies. That's about all for now. Hello to all and good luck. By the way if anyone in Adelaide or elsewhere reading this wishes to contact me, my postal address is P.O. Box 184 Stepney. 5069. I've got particular liking for B.U.G.A.U.P. type activities...

Best regards Michael.

MELBOURNE.

LIBERTARIAN WORKERS FOR A SELF-MANAGED SOCIETY.

The Libertarian Workers will be producing a news bulletin which will be out in August. This bulletin will be concentrating on the international Anarchist movement and there will be articles on Anarchism in: FRANCE, BELGIUM, SPAIN, PORTUGAL, FINLAND, ITALY, GREECE, INDIA and a general report on EGYPT.

As well there will be articles from international magazines as well as local and national news.

The bulletin will be out mid/late August and we would like to hear from other groups to find out how many copies they would like. We recommend the bulletin retail for 80¢ - \$1.00. We are happy to accept Anarchist books as payment from other groups.

We also intend to hold a public meeting in September on ANARCHISM: AN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE as well as continue to produce literature and involve ourselves in local and, if possible, national campaigns.

We would like to appeal to all Anarchist groups in Australia to send us a copy of any material they produce as it will be placed in our archives/library and therefore it will be available for other people to look at. In many cases literature is produced but it is not shared among different groups.

As far as the re-opening of the Chummy Fleming bookshop/library/coffee shop is concerned, it has been put back another six months for a variety of reasons, mainly financial.

L.W.F.A.S.M.S.

EQUAL DECISION MAKING POWER
EQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH

Dear Comrades,

The following text is a leaflet we distributed at demos, coffee shops and generally to advertise the new centre which has recently opened in Melbourne. Sorry its not written in a more personal style for this newsletter. We have been putting a lot of energy into projected activity ideas for the centre. I don't think anyone in the collective feels they can write on behalf of the collective about the centre or its internal structure at this point in time, as we are still feeling our way. There will be more to say to YOU by the next newsletter's appearance.

Maz.

On August 5, the Melbourne Anarchist Centre opened at 215 Victoria Parade, Collingwood. The purpose of the centre is to provide an access point for Anarchist ideas, and to encourage non-authoritarian activity. Some of the means by which the centre hopes to achieve these ends are as follows:

The centre will run a bookshop, (Thurs - Sun, afternoons) to distribute literature related to anarchism, anti-militarism, feminism, the environment and education, which is generally not available through commercial stores. The shop will also handle posters, badges, and records. Among the records sold will be those of Crass. Crass is an anarchist punk band, the only successful band in the world to use the profits made from the sale of their records to finance non-capitalist causes. Because of direct dealing through anarchist channels you will be able to buy Crass records more cheaply at the centre than at any of the record import shops.

Historical display, - There has been a continuing Anarchist presence in Australia since at least 1886, when the Melbourne Anarchist Club held its first meeting. There have been many other attempts to put self-management ideas into practice both before and after that date. A display of photographs and other memorabilia has been organised for the centre. The majority of material covers the period 1886 - 1896 - a time of great excitement, one in which anarchists were directly and significantly involved.

Library and Resources - The centre is also involved with the ongoing work of establishing a library with books, leaflets, magazines and information from around the world. Incorporated in the library is a collection of European Anarchist posters.

Workshops - Beginning in September there will be an eight-week course in 'Peace Studies' (1½ hrs a week) and a four-week course on communication, autonomy and assertiveness (1½-2 hrs a week). The times and dates of these and any forthcoming workshops will be available from the shop. Workshop space is available at low rent to other interest groups who hold non-authoritarian ideas.

Also in the pipeline is a workroom where people wishing to express ideas and images of co-operation and tolerance may have use of small-scale printing equipment, typewriter, screen-printing materials and so on, as the centre can make them available.

An informal coffee lounge is also being discussed, it would be diverse in its use - from just being a place to sit and read to a discussion area and a setting for poetry reading, music and films. Do you have any thoughts or energy in those directions?

The Melbourne Anarchist Centre is financed by the pledges of its collective members and will continue to exist for as long as the energies and resources of that collective last. The life of the centre is in direct proportion to the amount of participation and growth that it attracts. If the ideas of anarchy and co-operation fail to draw new members then the centre will fade and vanish, but if people see the joys and strengths of personal and social anarchy then the centre can only blossom.

Membership of the collective is open to people who want to work for a self-managed society.

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MELBOURNE CONTINUED.

The La Trobe University Anarchists were set up at the beginning of 1982. We are very small, with 4 members at last count. As of early August we have produced four leaflets and one of our members has been elected to the SRC explicitly as an Anarchist. Also, the Libertarian Socialists have been at LaTrobe for years and still keep a bookstall on Thursdays. Contact us through Bernadette C/- Latrobe S.R.C., Bundoora, Melbourne.

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TREASON - ANARCHIST MAGAZINE.

The Treason group has now produced 9 issues of "Treason" and a 10th is in hand. The core group has been dissipated by some members leaving the state and others becoming involved in the Anarchist centre, but links with Treason have been kept in all cases and it is unlikely that the group will break up. Disagreement amongst ourselves mainly focuses on the "practical anarchy" column. We have not gone ahead with an earlier plan to devolve into 2 groups (see Bulletin No. 1).

"Treason" has had some friendly publicity in Media information Australia and some hostile publicity in the Bulletin. (The OTHER Bulletin I mean!). The Bulletin effectively suggested that the secret police should find ways to suppress us and similar groups.

Cheers, Jeremy.

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WESTERN AUSTRALIA

I have a suggestion for all groups in the world to consider, part of which is slightly frivolous, and part of which isn't. The idea is that we start a massive umbrella organisation under the title of "The International Anarchist Conspiracy", and that every group in the world, by virtue of being an anarchist group, is henceforth a fully paid up card carrying member of the conspiracy. All groups are entitled to sign themselves as the appropriate Section, International Anarchist Conspiracy. The sections could be local, regional, national, continental or whatever. Which means that we here could put out statements signed "Freedom Collective", West Australian Section, International Anarchist Conspiracy", and other groups elsewhere as appropriate. Where several groups exist in a city they would have to come to some agreement regarding suburbs or names etcetera.

Now all this is obviously fairly frivolous and hardly striking dread into the hearts of the bourgeoisie, but it costs us nothing and it might even help anarchists to start communicating with each other.

But anyway, to the second, more serious part of this suggestion - money. I, for one, am thoroughly pissed off with

being robbed blind by the banks for sending money overseas. Commission of \$5 (about 2.50 pounds) is standard here, even for sending \$10. Another mob who makes a fortune out of anarchists is the various post offices. The main problem is bulk postage of books. So over the next year or so, is it too much to ask that the various anarchist publishing houses, in the English speaking world at least, should consider more communication between themselves and other anarchist groups and consider more joint publishing ventures such as Cienfuegos has been doing for a while now?

Especially with the cheaper books I think it would be best to send a single copy from the originating publisher to others who are interested, and for them to print their own editions in their own countries.

I don't know whether the higher printing costs per copy for doing small runs would cancel out the money saved on freight, but I do think it would be worth investigating.

And back to the banks, does anyone have any bright ideas on how to send money to each other without getting robbed every time? How about an anarchist currency clearing house? Yes, I know it's disgusting but so is getting robbed. Capital rules (not O.K.) Degrading though it may be, the money saved from such a system might stop a few anarchist publishing groups from going under. (Does anyone know an anarchist publisher that isn't in financial difficulties?)

Anyway, nuff for now. Hope to have some replies soon.

Leonard Hinckley,
for Freedom Collective,
West Australian Section,
International Anarchist
Conspiracy,
Post Office Box 203,
Freemantle,
W.A. 6160.

THE COLLECTIVE EFFORTS OF THE FREEDOM COLLECTIVE

Since we published the first Anarchist Newsletter the Freedom Collective has been engaged in quite a variety of activities. A number of these are, in my opinion, highly significant.

For the past year or so we have been trying to establish a printing co-operative in conjunction with the Communist Party and the Community School. Agreement was reached in principle with the CPA which was supposed to supply a press (which needed some repairs) whilst we provided a printer. The arrangement involved teaching people at the Community School all aspects of printing. Although, because of legal requirements a board of directors will be needed, control of the whole operation will be indisputably

vested in the hands of the workers involved. Unfortunately, since we reached the agreement in principle with the CPA representatives in May, infighting within the CPA has meant that the likelihood of them fulfilling their part of the bargain has greatly receded. Nevertheless we are still proceeding and are prepared to go it alone.

As part of our efforts to set up the print-co-operative we recently held a Bastille Day Concert to help raise the \$800 - \$1,000 we think we will need. We anticipate it will probably take a year, unless there are any dramatic developments, to raise the money. Most of it will probably be raised by doing small print jobs on our letter-press machine.

Another of our recent events, the May Day Freedom Fair was a limited success. In terms of fund-raising we lost, primarily because of rain but we set an excellent example to other groups of our co-operative organisational abilities and initiative.

One of the other projects we are involved in is the production of an historical issue of News from Nowhere featuring John Englaart's "A Recent History of Sydney and Australian Anarchism" (unfortunately we were pre-empted by the English paper Freedom but will still reprint for Australian distribution). As an outgrowth of this, because we were dissatisfied with the brevity and inaccuracies of John Englaart's reportage of events in W.A., we are now working on a history of Western Australian anarchism.

Naturally we are still continuing the other facets of our activities such as running the Libertarian Resource Centre and producing News from Nowhere at regular intervals.

In the future we would very much like to see and participate in another national Anarchist Conference to try and sort out the differences within and between groups and where possible establish effective co-operation on various levels. It is probably an essential move if we really seriously want to make our dreams a reality.

Rupert Gerritson,
for the Freedom Collective.

NEW SOUTH WALES

A Report from Jura Books.

A group has recently parted from the Jura Books Collective, to form their own collective to run another bookshop at Redfern.

This move was the result of many months of both personal and ideological conflicts around issues concerning the day-to-day running of the collective such as membership, method of job rotation and proposed changes in the procedures and the purpose of our regular weekly "business" meetings.

Central to all of these, conflicts was the

question of power. Most collectives face 'power' problems continually - it is something anarchist collectives must come to terms with. As anarchists we are concerned with the avoidance of power relationships, i.e. the equalization of social relationships within the collective, and although it is a difficult process given the competitive conditioning in capitalist society, it is necessary to keep working against the implementation of capitalist social relations. One method is to introduce job rotation and skill sharing. This should be as accessible as possible and everyone should be encouraged to participate. This has been practised in the collective albeit not as successfully as we would have liked.

Every aspect of our collective running of the bookshop has been a developmental process and while we were having problems with job rotation (often due to lack of time and energy committed) we did not accept the solution proposed by what was to become the 'splinter group': compulsory job rotation.

All the sharing of skills and of responsibility under the sun alone will not overcome social elitism.

This instance of social power relationship was the most difficult one to confront and was one of the major reasons that the Jura Book Collective could not resolve the "split".

Both groups had entirely different perspectives of the issues and due to the degeneration of the dialogue into personal 'mud-slinging', the ideologies involved were never debated. The details of the fight are not worth going into here, however there are many lessons to be learned from this experience. Not the least of these is that the exercise of power by overly dominant personalities needs to be confronted by anarchist collectives (and by anarchists everywhere) from the beginning - before manipulation, animosity and alienation can gain a foothold.

But the Jura Collective Lives!

We were unable to take as much time for this report as we would have liked because we are actively reorganising the collective. The IWW producing the 'Rebel Worker' and the 'Everything' collective still operate largely from these premises, and we hope to be able to make our presence felt in other areas as well soon.

This report is a compilation of a few comrades ideas, so there may be parts that others in our collective disagree with.

In Solidarity,
The Jura Books Collective.

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late july 82

Mi'eville treasonable types, thanx for the letter & ta for the cashola for the posters, a remarkable occurrence. Sorry about the great lateness of this note, very busy going around in circles as usual. Panic people arn't up to much. We are probably about to complete the printing of winter Red & Black and that has taxed our slender energies to the limit, especially since the print shop power got seized. ALL POWER TO THE CITY ZEN COUNCILS. (some-one else, not us).

The coffee shop is going through what seems to be a series of last gasps. It's being maintained by a 'regular thurs nite nosh up' which sort of doesn't pay the rent. The most optimistic outlook is that it will be taken over by a pair of paralytic plonguers who will open up ½ the week, continue the thurs. B grade special and make enough super profit to pay the rent.... an unlikely event.

AS it looks as if we will have to endure yet another year when we have finished this one we are contemplating the necessity of a 1983 anti-authoritarian calendar. Anyone interested in contributing please rite to us c/o below: Panic Productions, Box K153 Haymarket sydney n.s.w.

The Prison Diaries of RAY DENNING are about to be published. Ray hasn't stopped his struggle inside the velvet glove since his recapture. He was one of the four prisoners who constituted the officially permitted representative committee which complained about the food at long bay. They have all been moved to solitary confinement in remote jails and Ray can be contacted c/o the Goulburn 'zoo'. The book will be 4 dollars (3.50 + postage). Write to : The Ray Denning Support Group c/o Box K153 haymarket sydney. n.s.w.

The Jarassic rift has finally occurred. The only problem remaining being the name of the alternative, alternative bookshop (and the impossibility of meaningful change). Good probabilities are; St. Wretchards in the Feild and Schismata of my Fashion with the logo of wretchard on the crass.

And so gangland leader james Sofa occupies the ebony tower, at least until their principal legitimately takes its inexorable quarter, or the end of the current I.C.E. age.

I.C.E., Institute of Contemporary Events c/o 101 Mayhem St. Dubbo.

PANIC MERCHANTS.

(Typists note: the alternative, alternative bookshop is called REDFERN BLACK ROSE.)

! ! ! ! !

Dear Comrades,

We are an anarchist collective set up to run the Redfern Black Rose Anarchist Bookshop, a new anarchist project in Sydney. Not only will we be an outlet for anarchist and related literature, but we aim also to put our principles into practice by consciously functioning as an anarchist collective. Our group is the product of a split in the Jura Books Collective and we intend to apply the lessons we learnt in our time there in our new environment.

Among the things we feel we have learnt and which could only be applied in a new collective are the importance of job rotation, consensus decision making, a proper definition of membership, an open and workable joining procedure and an atmosphere which is supportive and comradely rather than "strictly business".

We have also learnt that these things do not happen spontaneously, nor do they happen just because the idea is endorsed in principle. We have to make them happen, often against the effects of strong bourgeois conditioning. This is the main thread which runs through all the ideas which drew us together as a group within Jura Books and is a fundamental part of the philosophy of the new collective.

Why "another bookshop"? - We feel

that a secure supply of literature is a crucial foundation for a future anarchist movement in Australia and our experience leads us to suspect the viability of the organisational methods (or lack thereof) of those who are now in control of Jura Books. However, we are keen to stress that we are not taking any punitive actions against the new Jura Books collective and we certainly don't want others to do so! In the most optimistic scenario these fears of ours will be proved wrong and Sydney will find itself with two functioning and successful outlets for anarchist literature, each with its own quite distinctive ideological character.

If you would like more information or contact, we urge you to write or call in at the Redfern Black Rose Anarchist Bookshop, 36 Botany Road, N.S.W. 2015; or phone us on 699 6546. Our grand opening is scheduled for Saturday 4th September. Refreshments will be served from midday. We would like to see as many comrades on this occasion as possible.

Starting a new bookshop is a mammoth undertaking and we ask the support of comrades - moral, financial and otherwise. Obviously, the more support the project gets the better it can become. We would also like to hear from anyone interested in getting involved. In Solidarity,
The Redfern Black Rose collective.